THE TECH

VOL. XXVII. No. 34 BOSTON, MASS., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1907 PRICE THREE CENTS

SUPPORT OF THE TECH URGED BY COMMITTEE.

INSTITUTE COMMITTEE ISSUES CALL.

Poster Regulations Made. Need of New Cheer Discussed.

At a special meeting of the Institute Committee yesterday noon, a great deal of important business was transacted.

The position of The Tech was discussed at some length. Attention was called to the booming that the Tech Show gets, and the large number of men that turn out for it, also that Technique, track athletics, in fact every student activity except The Tech is boomed.

It was the sense of the meeting that The Tech in previous years had been run in a slipshod manner and had never occupied the place that a college paper should. It was felt that The Tech this year had taken a decided brace, with a board of efficient men.

It was brought out that five or six men have the whole responsibility for the publishing of the paper and do practically all of the work to keep the paper going. It was felt by the committee that there should be a larger number taking part in the publishing of the paper.

The committee felt that more men should take part in this activity which is so vital to all others. That Technology is the only scientific school in the country that publishes a newspaper, and that its paper ranks among the best of college papers was shown to be true.

A call was issued by the committee for candidates for the news staff of The Tech from the lower classes.

The placing of the student posters in the various Institute buildings was brought up for discussion. President Rapelye proposed a scheme which was thoroughly talked over and seemed satisfactory.

It was proposed that one bulletin board be placed in each building in a prominent place. This board shall have room for eight posters of uniform size and a definite position will be alloted to the organizations as the space is needed. The Tech and the Tech Show will continue to have special boards in Rogers.

Under the new scheme the important organizations which will have constant need for posters will be allotted a permanent place. Any of the minor societies, clubs or committees which have no allotted space and desiring to make announcements, may do so by petition to a committee appointed from the Institute Committee. These organizations are allowed to use the space for a definite length of time.

The committee voted to install these bulletin boards and a sub-committee will be appointed to take charge of the matter. The Institute Committee is to furnish rubber stamps with which to print the posters. The sub-committee will confer with the Faculty in regard to the carrying out of this action.

That the Institute needed several new cheers was also brought up. A suggestion was made to offer prizes of

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CATHOLIC CLUB HEARS OF PASTEUR.

The Faith of the Great Scientist.

Le Marquis Bouthillier Chavigny, an eminent Frenchman now visiting in America, spoke last evening before the Catholic Club on Louis Pasteur.

Among other things he said:

"I thought that in a country like yours where facts always take precedence of words, it was my duty as a Catholic Frenchman, to answer these critics (who said that Catholicism worked against progress) by evoking before your eyes the greatest scientist that the world has ever known and asking him to tell you by his words and by his deeds, what his ideas were concerning science and religion.

He who had pushed so far the spirit of investigation . . . had absolute faith in God and in Eternity.. Full of respect for the form of religion which had been that of his forefathers he came to it in his daily life simply and naturally for spiritual help."

PURE SCIENCE COURSES OF GREAT VALUE.

PERSEVERANCE REQUISITE TO SUCCESS.

President Noyes Talks to Freshmen on Choice of Course.

President Noyes spoke to the Freshman class yesterday on the choice of a course. He said in part:

"At the beginning of next term you will be asked to decide in a general way what kind of Course you are to pursue. At that time you must be prepared to answer whether it shall be one of the engineering courses—or architecture—or chemistry—or physics—or biology. Between the different engineering courses you need not decide at present. That decision is to be reached at the beeginning of the 2nd year.

It is desirable that the decision you have to make now be the final one—but if you should find at the end of this year that you have made a mistake, you can change by doing a certain amount

ACTING-PRESIDENT A. A. NOYES.

of work in the summer, and you must not hesitate to do so. It is of great importance that your final decision be right, for it determines your life work. Consider it carefully.

The engineer is primarily the man who directs the construction of works or machines or the carrying on of industrial operations—he is the executor of scientific undertakings. The chemist or biologist or geologist who devotes himself to industrial work is the man who primarily devises and improves methods and processes—he is the scientific expert and originator.

In any technological profession the combination of these two faculties is of course highly desirable—the engineer to reach the highest success must be able to originate, and the applied scientist must be able to execute, but the primary distinction between their activities are those I have stated. For, example, the chemist devises an improvement in the process of making rubber, or paper, or leather; the chemical engineer builds the machinery, arranges for the power, and secures the materials required for its practical execution.

Consider then whether your interest and aptitude lie rather on the side to practical execution or on that of the study, investigation, and origination of new processes.

Another thing—and on this, I would lay much emphasis—do not be influenced by the idea that one or another course leads to better or more remunerative positions. For graduates of every course there are more good positions waiting than can be filled. Whether you succeed or not will depend simply on whether you are fitted to fill those positions satisfactorily—so here again you must prepare yourself for that profession for which you are most adapted.

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LACK OF MONEY CAUSES CRISIS.

PROFESSOR DEWEY TALKS OF FINANCIAL PANIC.

Weak Banking System Could Not Handle Conditions.

Professor Davis R. Dewey, speaking to the Instructors' Club Monday evening, gave a clear insight into the vital question of the present financial situation.

Prof. Dewey first spoke of the great prosperity of the country a year ago and even a few months ago, a condition which made the panic seem more inexplicable. He spoke of the numerous theories which have been advanced to explain it, and mentioned in particular two: one, that the cause was purely psychological, an unreasoning fear on the part of the people which led them to withdraw their money from the banks, and another, that the disturbance was in a large measure due to things said by Roosevelt.

Both these theories and similar ones are, in the speaker's opinion erroneous. The disturbance was not due to any recent cause but was the natural result of forces which have been at work for years. First, the increase in price of commodities, of 44 per cent in the last eleven years, or 4 per cent each year. There are numerous theories in regard to the cause of this rise, but it is Prof. Dewey's opinion that it is due to the increase in production of gold, the world's supply of which has increased from 4100 to 7500 million dollars in ten years.

Whatever the cause of high prices, their effect was to stimulate industry, which necessitated the borrowing of capital. Last year the industries of the United States planned to spend $2,500,000,000 and the people do not have at their disposal over $800,000,000 in one year. The result was that money had to be borrowed from other countries, and while this was possible to some extent, it was not possible to obtain as much as might have been obtained under normal conditions, for the same kind of activity was going on all over Europe, and the home enterprises needed the money. Moreover, a good deal of wealth has been destroyed in recent wars and earthquakes. This great demand for capital caused a rise in the rate of interest, and made it necessary to put the old securities on a new basis.

In order to meet the demand for loans, the banks have endeavored to attract deposits from country banks and have encroached upon their reserves. Trust companies with insufficient supervision have sprung up and money has been put into enterprises which are not immediately productive. The people, finding how the banks have encroached upon their reserves, lost their trust in them and attempted to take their money out, with the natural result. The same thing has been going on in all European countries, except that their better banking methods have prevented any crisis.

After the address, Prof. Dewey had an informal discussion with the members, answering questions which were put to him. The attendance of over fifty was the largest this year.

NEW BROTHERHOOD AT TECH.

Probationary Chapter of Brotherhood of St. Andrew Formed.

A probationary chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was organized on last Sunday evening in the Parish House of Trinity Church. Three months will be required to test the efficiency of such an organization at the Institute.

H. E. Weeks 1908 was unanimous'y elected probationary director. R. H. Ranger 1911 was elected secretary.

All efforts of the probationary chapter will be centered in bringing men to a corporate communion at 9 o'clock the third Sunday of every month. There will be a business meeting in a few days and several informal meetings before the next corporate communion on the 19th of January.

NEW FIELDS FOR THE TECHNOLOGIST.

ECONOMIC EXPERT POINTS OUT VITAL PROBLEMS IN INDUSTRIAL LIFE.

By Education the Encroachments of Unionism Must be Checked.

By J. K. TURNER.

The normally constituted man does not accept things as he finds them merely because they are so, but prefers to use his God-given intellect to investigate them for himself and form his own conclusions of the causes that produced the effects confronting him. This is especially true of the young man who follows the study of technology in which study proper, as in its precursories, nothing can be taken for granted, but every step must be attained by carefully worked out and proven process of logic and mathematic, fashioned to withstand the closest scrutiny!

As a nation we are now passing through an extremely critical period. This is a fact which is only too apparent on every hand. Many reasons have been advanced as to the supposed cause of the effect from which we are suffering today. They cover a wide range, and, in the majority of cases, are ably presented and convincingly put.

What is perhaps the most scholarly exposition, logically set forth and clothed in language simple and effective, hitting the nail squarely on the head, is the book of James Roscoe Day, D. D., L. L. D., Chancellor of Syracuse University, "The Raid on Prosperity." I mention this book merely because in my extensive researches into our economic conditions, undertaken to ascertain the true causes of our present national indisposition and to discover a lasting cure, I have found nothing that so straighfowardedly points out the evil and suggests the remedy.

One of the chief causes that contribute to a weakening of our stability is the growing influx of our farming population into our cities. They are attracted thither by the high wages paid labor that is frequently out of all proportion to the actual work performed. This state of affairs is brought about by labor unions who, although numbering scarcely two million out of a total of thirty million workers, are nevertheless arrogating to themselves the right to dictate and force terms.

America's land, soil, coal and oil regions, rivers and plains, are to-day as rich in yield as ever; but because of the rapidly decreasing population of our rural sections, which correspondingly increases the crowded conditions in our cities, they can not be exploited to full advantage.

Two things are vitally essential:

First: The unreasonable enroaochments of unionism must be checked. This can be done by education alone, and right here is a magnificent opportunity afforded the technologist in his shop work, where he mingles with the men, to point out to them by word and deed the error of their attitude which eventually injures them more than any one else. Because of the technologist's higher education, it is his duty to assume leadership among men who are misdirected by false teachers, but who lack sufficient initiative and a leader to return to the paths of American common sense.

Second. Ways and Means must be found and exploited to repopulate our rural sections as fast as possible. One of the greatest means toward that end are our rapidly increasing interurban systems, and instead of opposing them, or demanding unreasonable concessions, our city councils, legislatures, and other bodies legislative should do everything in their power to further the spreading of traction systems that will bind city and country closer together. Then there are many things that the farmer does not possess, but that are common property in the city where they make life more pleasant. It is the technologist's further duty to assist to the best of his ability in devising and constructing labor saving machinery and appliances that will rob life on the farm

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THE TECH

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Wednesday, December 18, 1907.

The Tech announces the resignation of D. C. McMurtrie 1910 from the position of secretary of the Board of Editors, and the election of G. A. Haynes 1909 to the office thus vacated. Announcement is also made of the appointment of Donald R. Stevens 1911, and L. Gordon Glazier 1911, to the News Staff; of Merton W. Hopkins 1911 to the Circulation Staff; and of Clarence A. Woodruff 1911, and W. Rowe McCune 1911 to the Business Staff.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY.

J. K. Turner, president of the Manufacturer's Information Bureau, in his article in today's issue treats of two problems that are seldom brought to the mind of the Technology man. The first, that of labor unions, is one that almost every Institute man will have to deal with in his future career.

Except for a short period in Political Economy this vital problem is hardly mentioned in the curriculum. Yet in nearly every industry where a Tech man may find employment the most important task that will confront him will be the handling of labor with its attendant unionism, closed shops, scabs, open shops, problems without end.

When the average Institute man knows anything about labor unions, he is prejudiced. Too willing is he to take the places of strikers even when the strike is justified.

Whether the strikers are in the right or in the wrong, whether the cause of the unions is good or bad, the Technology man, the future arbiter between capital and labor, should not in his incipient stage take up with either side, because he is not in a position to judge which side is in the right.

President Roosevelt pointed out in his letter to Technique 1906 in a clear strong manner the position that the Institute man holds in the industrial world. He says:

"The graduates of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as engineers, have a chance to exert great influence for good as regards one of the chief issues before us as a people—that of securing in our modern industrial system a healthy working agreement between the representatives of capital and labor. As engineers you ought to stand between the extremists on the two sides. Both by your training, and by the actual experience of your lives as you will hereafter lead them, you should find yourselves fitted to do important work for the good of the entire country by exerting your influence in a common sense, straightforward, manly fashion on the side of those who believe that the one and only guaranty of the success of our modern industrial system is to be found in the gradual growth of the spirit which makes each man, whether employer or employee, while standing up for his rights, ashamed not to render full justice to all others, nor to remember that it is even more incumbent upon him to remember his duties than his rights."

SUPPORT OF THE TECH

(Continued from page 1.)

$10 and $5 for the two best yells handed in, the decision on the matter to be made at a student's convocation which is to come early in January.

One of the greatest evils of the present time in student activities at the Institute was pointed out to be the holding of several responsible offices by one man. A system in vogue at other colleges is the division of the various class and organizations into major and minor classes, and allowing one man to hold only one major and one minor office. A sub-committee was appointed to look into the matter and report at the next meeting of the Institute Committe.

PURE SCIENCE COURSES

(Continued from page 1.)

Those of you who feel an interest in the scientific side rather than from the engineering or executive side should carefully consider preparing yourselves for teaching positions, especially in the higher institutions. The supply of men for such positions is extremely inadequate, few men enter this field and yet to a man with scholarly tastes, who wishes to study and make investigations and scientific discoveries, who enjoys the personal contact with young men, who appreciates the opportunity he has for making them into efficient agents for the world's work, the position of instructor or professor in a college or scientific school is one of the most attractive ones in the world. Here again it is a question of aptitude and interests, but to the man who possesses the qualities of a successful teacher and investigator (they usually go together) there is no higher service he can render to his country or to his fellow men than that which results from his devoting himself to these pursuits.

It has been well said by President Elliot that the chief industry of Massachusetts is the production of men. The teacher is the engineer who carries on that industry. So take this matter under consideration also; and here again do not let the thought enter as a factor that the salaries of professors may be smaller than those of engineers or men in the industries. For professors do not as a rule go hungry or half-clothed or live in hovels, and if they do not all ride in automobiles, they are at least more likely to have developed the faculties and to have the opportunities for the enjoyment of literature, science, art, nature, travel, than have the engineer or the business man who too often sells his birth-right of freedom for a mess of pottage.

Let me add a word more about the Course in Biology. I have alluded to it as leading to the profession of Medicine. A scientific course of this kind forms, in my opinion, a far better preparation for the Medical School than the usual college course devoted to classics and humanistic studies. The reason why more physicians do not rise to scientific eminence is that they do not have such a thorough scientific trainning as is given to engineers. Yet practice of medicine rests upon chemistry and biology. Therefore give the course in Biology your consideration.

One word more—if after a fair trial of this year's work some few of you find you do not have any special scientific aptitude for any of our lines of work, do not hesitate to leave the Institute rather than to continue to work here in a half-hearted and ineffective way. If your tastes are in the direction of business rather than of study, go into business at once. If they are literary rather than scientific, take a college course in preparation for one of the literary or humanistic professions—law, journalism, or teaching. Here again follow the same principle: find out what you are best fitted for, what is your appropriate life work, and then, but not till then, stick to it with indomitable resolution. When your work in life is fully settled, follow Holmes' advice: "Stick to your aim—the mongrel's hold will slip."

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NATIONAL FORESTS IN THE EAST.

Society of Arts to Hear Discussion as to Their Possibility.

The Society of Arts will hold a regular meeting in 22 Walker to-morrow at 8 P. M. Mr. Philip W. Ayres, Forester of New Hampshire, will address the society on forestry with special reference to the proposed national forests in the White and Appalachian mountains. The address will be illustrated with lantern slides. All interested are invited to attend.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

President Noyes Announces Reception at The Union.

All students who will be away from home Christmas week are urged to meet at the Union at 7.30 P. M. on the evening before Christmas (Tuesday, December 24th) to take part in the usual Christmas festival. The entertainment will consist this year in a talk by Mr. Lyman Underwood upon animal life, illustrated by colored stereopticon views, followed by the distribution of gifts from the Chistmas tree, singing and instrumental music, and light refreshments. A. A. NOYES, President.

DR. KINNICUT TALKS TO CHEMISTS.

Dr. Kinnicut of Worcester Tech last evening talked to the Chemical Society on "The Sanitary Chemist on the Purification of Sewage." He spoke of three methods of domestic sewer purification: the intermittent sand filter, the Dibney contact process, and the septic tank process.

Illustrations of many plants were shown and Dr. Kinnicut explained thoroughly the whole process from the construction of the plant to all the details of its operation.

TO HEAR ABOUT ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Major Briggs and Mr. Franklin Will Talk Athletic Association.

Major Briggs and Mr. Franklin of the Advisory Council will be present at the meeting of the Athletic Association to-morrow. The former is the chairman of the Council and the latter is the treasurer. They will speak to the association on the management of athletics at the Institute and will endeavor to bring the new body into harmony with the old.

NEW FIELDS FOR THE TECHNOLOGIST.

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of many of its still existing unpleasant features. Thus, finally, the farmer will enjoy practically all of the comforts of the city, be within easy reach of the town, and yet live upon the farm, in the free, open air, and till the soil upon which depends the life and sustenance of the man who lives in the city. This will also result in a changed tide, from the city countryward and lessen the number of farms that are deserted because of lack of hands to operate them.

Every reader of this paper and student of this one of our greatest institutes of technology will thus perceive his vast range of usefulness in the aiding of solving the great industrial-economic problems that confront us. Indeed, the field of the technologist has but few equals in any other line or profession. That he is not slow to avail himself patriotically of its possibilities is a fact which an appreciative nation gratefully acknowledges.

SOUTHERNERS PLAN CHRISTMAS.

Holiday Spread to be Held During the Holidays.

Arrangements are now being made for a dinner to be given by the Southerners from the Institute who remain in Boston during the holidays. Monday, Dec. 23, at 7.30 P. M., has been selected as the date, but definite arrangements as to the place cannot be made until it is definitely known how many men will be present. All Southerners at the Institute are urged to attend. The total cost will not exceed $2.00, but cannot be exactly ascertained until arrangements are complete. Any balance will, of course, be promptly returned.

Any who expect to attend should see a member of the committee, or should send two dollars to Harold Bounetheau, Hotel Kempton, Boston. The committee is composed of Richard Ayres, Harold Bounetheau, and Hardy Cross. No applications will be received after Friday noon, and notice of the place of the dinner will be mailed on that day.

PROFESSOR TO ADDRESS Y. M. C. A.

One of the members of the instructing staff at the Institute will address the Y. M. C. A. at its weekly meeting to-morrow noon in the library of Trinity Church. Professor George B. Haven will be the speaker. He has always taken a keen interest in student affairs and good talk may be expected.

The Technology Review

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF CLASS SECRETARIES

83 NEWBURY STREET, BOSTON

The Review aims to develop closer relations among Institute men and to stimulate their interest in the work of the College. It is in no sense an engineering magazine, but deals broadly with the problems of Technological Education and the responsibilities of the professional man.

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CALENDAR.

Wednesday, December 18.

1.00 P. M. Senior Class Meeting in Huntington Hall.
4.15 P. M. Civil Engineering Society in 11 Eng. B.
6.00 P. M. Biological Society Dinner at the Union.

Thursday, December 19.

1.00 P. M. Exeter Club Meeting in 26 Rogers.
1.00 P. M. El Circulo Mexicana meeting in 22 Rogers.
1.30 P. M. Y. M. C. A. Meeting in Trinity Church Library.
4.00 P. M. Athletic Association Meeting in 22 Rogers.
4.00 P. M. Prof. Swain's Reading in 6 Lowell.
8.00 P. M. Society of Arts Meeting in 22 Walker.
8.00 P. M. Winter Concert and Dance in New Century Building.

Friday, December 20.

4.00 P. M. Glee Club Rehearsal at the Union.
6.30 P. M. British Empire Association Christmas Dinner at the Union.

NOTICES.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.—Meeting Thursday at 4 o'clock in 22 Rogers.

1908.—Senior class meeting today at 1 o'clock in Huntington Hall.

EL CIRCULO MEXICANA.—Meeting tomorrow at 1 o'clock in 22 Rogers. Plans for a dinner during the Christmas vacation will be discussed.

TECH SONGS.—A limited number of Second Edition now on sale at The Cage and at News Stand. An excellent Xmas gift.

TECH SHOW.—Posters of "William, Willie, and Bill" and "The Freshman," and scores of "William, Willie, and Bill," "The Freshman," and "The Chemical Maid" are now on sale at the Cage.

CALIFORNIA MEN.—All California men, who wish to be in the list inserted in "Technique 1909" under the head of "California Club" should leave their names at the Cage for L. C. Hampton before Dec. 30.

CIVIL ENGINEERING SOCIETY.—Meeting this afternoon at 4.15 P. M. in 11 Eng. B. Mr. John R. Rablin of the Metropolitan Park Commission will speak on the engineering features of the Metropolitan Park system.

CLASSIFIED ADS.

Advertisements of this kind under different classifications are inserted at the rate of five cents a line, averaging six words to a line, payable in advance.

FOUND.—A slide rule. Inquire at the Bursar's office.

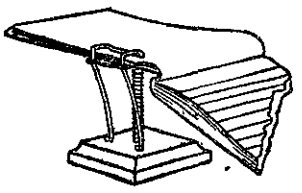
WANTED.—A man to work 1 hour a day through Xmas vacation in exchange for board. C. A. Woodruff, care of the "Cage."

WANTED AT ONCE.—Agents for the Red Dwarf Ink Pencil. Apply any noon at Room 30, Rogers.

WANTED AT ONCE.—Copies of the first six volumes of Technique in good condition. State price. Box 52, The Cage.

AWAY WITH THE SPIKE SPINDLE

One has often shuddered at the newspaper accounts of persons becoming maimed, or even killed from accidents occurring from the SPIKE SPINDLE; the pushing of the sharp point through the hand in placing papers thereon, or stooping over and having it run into the face. Their use is very dangerous. One caused the death of a girl in a Boston department store. THE DEVOE PATENT SPRING SPINDLE FILE was invented to take the place of the spike. Our File not only does away with all danger, but in no wise destroys the papers



The device is shown as a file for memo papers and as a stenographer's note book holder. It can also be used to hold open a book while reading by clasping at top in the middle. Send stamp for circular. Over 50,000 in use. Used in over 200 N. E. City Town and Private Schools.

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